THE STAR WITH THE LARGEST KNOWN PROPER MOTION.

The star, Cordoba Zone Catalogue, 5^h, No. 243, has been found by Professor J. C. KAPTEYN and Mr. R. T. A. INNES to have an annual proper motion of $+0^s.621$ in Right Ascension and $-5''.70$ in Declination, or of $8''.7$ in the arc of a great circle. The announcement in the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, 3464, states that the discovery was made in comparing the Cape Photographic *Durchmusterung* star places with those of other star catalogues.

The largest known proper motion of any star previous to this discovery was that of the so-called "runaway" star, 1830 Groombridge, which has an apparent drift of $7''.0$ annually.

January 6, 1898. R. G. A.

ASTRONOMICAL TELEGRAM *(Translation).*

Lick Observatory, Jan. 3, 1898.

To Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge, Mass. } (Sent 10:50 A. M.)

Comet WINNECKE was observed by PERRINE, January 2.0873, R. A. $15^h\ 19^m\ 2^s.5$, Decl. $-3°\ 58'\ 34''$. Faint.

OBSERVATIONAL ASTRONOMY: A PRACTICAL BOOK FOR AMATEURS. BY ARTHUR MEE, F. R. A. S.

The library of the Society has become the possessor, through the courtesy of the author, of the second and thoroughly revised edition of what *Knowledge* calls "an excellent, honest little book." A cursory examination indicates that the author is justified in believing "that this second edition may be described as the most detailed work at the price that has ever been offered to the fast-growing circle of amateur astronomers." It is up to date, contains a vast amount of information well arranged, ample references to special treatises and articles in the scientific journals and reports of observatories, and is illustrated with portraits, maps, drawings, and photographs. "Every care has been taken to insure accuracy, and the fanciful results of the recently established school of marvel-mongers are either dismissed altogether, or viewed in these pages with a skeptical eye."

A brief but appreciative memoir of the Rev. Prebendary WEBB, author of the well-known "Celestial Objects for Common Telescopes," is appended.